

REMARKS

The Applicant has amended claims 17 and 21 to recite a dedicated track with system parameters including position offset information. Support for this amendment can be found on col. 6, lines 48-53; column 7, lines 24-36; and Figs. 10A and 10B in the specification of the above entitled application.

The Examiner rejected Claims 17, 21 and 33-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Valent. Valent does not disclose position offset information that is aligned with a track centerline of a dedicated track. Although Valent mentions storing the offset information, it does not state how this information is stored. Because write elements are offset from read elements, written information is typically offset from the centerline of the track. Lacking any teaching to the contrary, one skilled in the art would believe that the offset information would be stored in the normal manner, that is offset from the centerline of a track. Valent does not disclose or suggest storing offset information in a dedicated track where the information is aligned with the centerline of the dedicated track. For this reason, Valent does not anticipate claims 17, 21, 33 and 34.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 17, 21, and 33-34 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
IRELL & MANELLA LLP

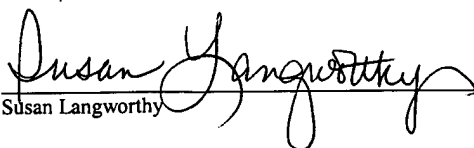
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 6, 2006.


Susan Langworthy